

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0059] with the following marked up paragraph:

[0059] A scale $j \in \{1 \dots J\}$ is assigned to each block, so that a cost function Λ is maximized,

$$S_{opt} = \arg \max_{S \in \{1 \dots J\}^{M \times N}} \Lambda(S, B) \quad (8)$$

where S_{opt} is the optimal segmentation map for the entire image, S is one of the J^{MN} possible labelings. of In one embodiment, each blocks represents a pixel of an image of size $M \times N$ with each block pixel assigned one of the scales in $\{1 \dots J\}$, and $\Lambda(S, B)$ yields the cost given any segmentation S and any entropy distribution B . In another embodiment, S_{opt} is the optimal segmentation map for the image composed of blocks, greater than one pixel, of size $m \times n$.